



PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONAL PREL

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

International Application No. (day/month/year) PCT/AU2003/000642 26 May 2003 11 July 2002 International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. CL. Co9K 17/02, 17/04, 17/06, 101:00, 109:00, C05D 11/00 Applicant TREERS, Huw et al 1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and its transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet. X This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheet(s). 3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I Basis of the report II Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI Certain defects in the international application VII Certain defects in the international application VIII Certain defects of the IPEA/AU Authorized Officer Albert S. J. VONG Fracilla No. (20) 6283 3929 Rubert S. J. VONG Fracilla No. (20) 6283 3929	Applicant's or agent's file reference 02701PC/GC/RG	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PC1/IPEA/416).					
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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT



International application No.

PCT/AU2003/000642

T.	Basi	Basis of the report				
1.	_	th regard to the elements of the international application:*				
	the	the international application as originally filed.				
	X the	description, pages 1-26, 30(abstract), as originally filed,				
		pages , filed with the demand.				
	_	pages, received on with the letter of				
	X the	claims, pages, as originally filed,				
	•	pages , as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19,				
		pages, filed with the demand,				
		pages 27-29, received on 12 May 2004 with the letter of 12 May 2004				
	X the	drawings, pages 1/3-3/3, as originally filed,				
		pages , filed with the demand,				
		pages, received on with the letter of				
	the	sequence listing part of the description:				
		pages , as originally filed				
		pages , filed with the demand				
		pages, received on with the letter of				
2.	With rega	ard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.				
		ments were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:				
	the	language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).				
	the	language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).				
		language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 Vor 55.3).				
3. ,		and to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international many examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:				
		stained in the international application in written form.				
		d together with the international application in computer readable form.				
	<u></u>	furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.				
	fun	furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.				
	The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.					
		statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has in furnished				
4.	The	amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:				
	[the description, pages				
	[the claims, Nos.				
	[the drawings, sheets/fig.				
5.		is report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**				
•	Replace report a	Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).				
••	Any rep	lacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report				





INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/AU2003/000642

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

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1	. Statement		
	Novelty (N)	Claims 1-20	YES
		Claims	NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-20	YES
		Claims	NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-20	YES
L		Claims	NO
		·	

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

CITATIONS

D1. AU 683611 (10050/97)

D2. JP 60127286

NOVELTY AND INVENTIVE STEP

<u>Claims 1-20</u>: The claimed invention relates to a soil additive comprising at least basalt, limestone, dolomite and claystone. None of the prior art soil additives contains claystone, which serves as a binding agent in the pelletisation process as well as providing greater retention of other constituents in the blended soil additive. Hence, the claims are novel and inventive in the light of these citations.